



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE,  
WATER, ENVIRONMENT AND THE ARTS**

Inquiry into the Australian coastal zone

**MEDIA RELEASE**

*Issued: 7 July 2008*

*Chair—Jennie George MP  
Deputy Chair—Mal Washer MP*

## **Central Coast public hearing on the Australian coastal zone**

The impact of climate change on coastal areas and the environmental impacts of coastal population growth will be on the agenda of a public hearing on the NSW Central Coast on Thursday 10 July.

The House of Representatives Climate Change, Water, Environment and the Arts Committee will hear from a range of individuals and organisations as part of its inquiry into climate change and environmental impacts on Australia's coastal zone.

Organisations appearing before the Committee include Lake Macquarie City Council and local environmental groups, Catherine Hill Bay Progress Association and Gwandalan/Summerland Point Action Group.

The Committee will also hold a roundtable with representatives from local councils, universities and environmental networks across the Central Coast region.

"Climate change, particularly projected sea level rise, has serious implications for coastal areas as much of Australia's population and infrastructure is in the coastal zone," Committee Chair Ms George said. "The growth in population along the coast is also increasing pressure on the environment in many areas."

"I look forward to talking with groups and individuals from the Central Coast about these issues".

Ms George has also called for members of the public to have their say on coastal management issues during a community statements session at the hearing. "Many people have thoughtful contributions to make and this open public forum will allow them to have their say on this important matter," Ms George said.

### **Public hearing schedule on 10 July 2008**

**Venue: Tasman Room, Mingara Recreation Club, Mingara Drive, Tumbi Umbi**

<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Roundtable with representatives from councils, universities and environmental groups from the Central Coast region</b>
<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Catherine Hill Bay Progress Association and Dune Care Inc</b>
<b>1.00pm</b>	<b>Lake Macquarie City Council</b>
<b>1.30pm</b>	<b>Gwandalan/Summerland Point Action Group</b>
<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Community statements</b>

Further details on the inquiry can be obtained from the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/ccwea>.

For **media comment**, please contact the Committee Chair, Ms Jennie George MP, on 02 6277 4260 (Canberra) or 02 4262 6122 (electorate office)

For **background information**, please contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4580 or by email at [ccwea.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:ccwea.reps@aph.gov.au).

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